

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC

ORDER NO. 4239

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served January 13, 1994

Investigation of Unauthorized )  
Operations of REGENCY LIMOUSINE )  
SERVICE, INC. )

Case No. MP-94-01

On February 1, 1993, the Commission's staff sent a certified letter to Regency Limousine Service, Inc. (Regency), informing it of our jurisdiction and of the need for WMATC operating authority for any transportation it might perform in the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit District. The return receipt shows that Regency received the letter February 2, 1993.

The February 1 letter expressly defined the Metropolitan District. Regency therefore should be aware that it presently holds no authority to transport persons for hire: (1) between points in Montgomery County, MD; (2) between points in Prince George's County, MD; (3) between those counties; (4) between those counties and DC; and (5) between those counties and DC, on the one hand, and points in northern Virginia bounded by the Potomac River and the border of Fairfax County, including Washington-Dulles International Airport (Dulles), on the other.

On January 3, 1994, the Commission received a letter on Regency letterhead announcing that Regency has moved its offices from Silver Spring, MD to Beltsville, MD. Attached to the letter is a flyer listing Regency's hourly "Service Rates" and fixed "Transfer Rates" for service to "National, Dulles and BWI Airports," effective August 1, 1993. Service is available in vehicles of various seating capacities ranging from 4 to 25 persons. Prices are subject to change without notice.

On January 4, 1994, staff called Regency and verified that transfer service in minibuses was available to Dulles from Prince George's County, MD, and Montgomery County, MD. Regency's representative confirmed the fare for such service and noted that over the course of the last ten years Regency had built a substantial clientele -- a couple of hundred accounts at least.<sup>1</sup>

Also on January 4, staff obtained various documents filed by Regency with the Maryland Public Service Commission (MDPSC), including a copy of Regency's tariff and two insurance certificates. Regency's

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<sup>1</sup> Commission records corroborate the ten-year estimate. Our records indicate that Regency's president, Paul Rodberg, contacted this Commission in February 1984 to inquire into our jurisdiction over limousine service. Mr. Rodberg was advised of our limousine jurisdiction and counselled to obtain a certificate from this Commission or limit his operations in our jurisdiction to vehicles with seating capacities of 9 persons or less.

tariff, filed August 26, 1991, references a "rate card" resembling the aforementioned flyer. The rates are somewhat lower, but the structure is essentially the same. The available vehicle sizes displayed in the rate card range from 4 to 47 persons. The two insurance certificates were filed August 4th and 9th, 1993, respectively. Addendums attached thereto list three minibuses and a van and suggest Regency also operates under the trade name Waterfront Limousine Service.

The service described in Regency's MDPSC filings and current flyer, as confirmed by Regency's representative, falls clearly within our jurisdiction.

Pursuant to the Compact, Title II, Article XIII, Section 1, the Commission hereby institutes an investigation into the operations of Regency Limousine Service, Inc., within the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit District. Regency will be named a party respondent and directed to produce copies of its vehicle manifests and customer invoices for transportation performed during the period beginning February 2, 1993, and ending on the date this order is issued. Regency also will be directed to show cause why it should not be found subject to a civil forfeiture for knowing and willful violations of the Compact and regulations thereunder. Finally, Regency will be directed to cease and desist from transporting passengers for hire between points in the Metropolitan District unless and until otherwise ordered by this Commission.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

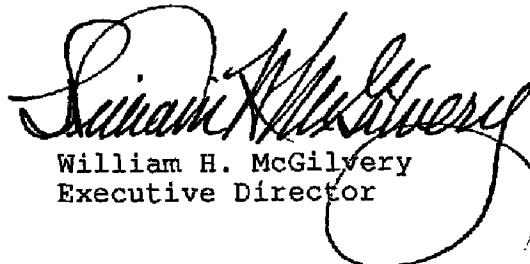
1. That an investigation is hereby instituted into the operations of Regency Limousine Service, Inc., within the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit District, and Regency Limousine Service, Inc., is hereby named a party respondent.

2. That Regency Limousine Service, Inc., shall file with the Commission, no later than February 3, 1994, copies of its vehicle manifests and customer invoices for transportation performed during the period beginning February 2, 1993, and ending on the date this order is issued.

3. That Regency Limousine Service, Inc., shall, no later than February 3, 1994, show cause why it should not be found subject to a civil forfeiture for knowing and willful violations of the Compact and regulations thereunder.

4. That Regency Limousine Service, Inc., shall cease and desist from transporting passengers for hire between points in the Metropolitan District unless and until otherwise ordered by this Commission.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION; COMMISSIONERS DAVENPORT, SCHIFTER, AND SHANNON:

  
William H. McGilvery  
Executive Director